

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 SANA 00739 230516Z  
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 AF-08 PM-04 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15  
IO-13 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 DODE-00 SSM-03 ACDA-07  
/087 W

-----230519 006844 /14

R 221200Z FEB 77  
FM AMEMBASSY SANA  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0484  
INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN  
AMEMBASSY CAIRO  
AMEMBASSY JIDDA  
AMEMBASSY MUSCAT  
AMEMBASSY PARIS  
COMIDEASTFOR  
CHUSMTM DHARHAN

C O N F I D E N T I A L SANA 0739

E.O. 11652 GDS  
TAGS: PFOR, YE  
SUBJ: RECENT BAB AL-MANDIB OVERFLIGHTS

REF: COMIDEASTFOR 181726Z; SANA 0659, 618, 4346(76)

1. COMIDESATFOR REFTTEL, WHICH ADDRESSED ONLY TO SANA,  
REPORTS THAT "FRENCH G-2 IN DJIBOUTI CONFIRMED THAT FRENCH  
AIRCRAFT WERE THE PLANES INVOLVED IN NOVEMBER OVERFLIGHTS  
VICINITY BAB AL MANDEB."

2. COMIDEASTFOR REFTTEL MAKES US THINK THAT PERHAPS THERE WERE  
OVERFLIGHTS, AS YEMENIS REPORTED. IT ALSO TENDS TO CONFIRM  
HAMDI REMARK IN SANA 0659 THAT PLANES WERE PROBABLY FRENCH.  
IT REMAINS TO BE SEEN WHETHER, AS YARG OFFICIALS INSIST,  
AMMUNITION WAS EXPENDED AGAINST YAR GROUND TARGETS,  
OR WHETHER THIS INCIDENT WAS DISCUSSED DURING FONMIN ASNAJ'S  
JUST ENDED OFFICIAL VISIT TO PARIS.

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2. IF FRENCH ARE THE ONES INVOLVED, HOWEVER, THE  
NEWS HAS SOME SMALL POTENTIAL FOR DEFUSING  
SUSPICION AND FEAR IN SANA OF ETHIOPIAN REGIME,  
AND MAY PUT A DIFFERENT COLOR ON ANY SAUDI THINKING  
ABOUT MEETING AN "ISRAELI" AIR THREAT IN THE LOWER  
PART OF THE RED SEA. WE WILL IN MATTER OF COURSE

FOLLOW UP WITH ASNAG CONCERNING THE OVERFLIGHTS AND  
WOULD APPRECIATE ANY CONFIRMATION FROM PARIS OR  
SAUDI ARABIA OF DJIBOUTI REPORT.  
SCOTES

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** AIRCRAFT OVERFLIGHTS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Sent Date:** 22-Feb-1977 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1977SANA00739  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D770062-0281  
**Format:** TEL  
**From:** SANA  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1977/newtext/t19770221/aaaaasjl.tel  
**Line Count:** 66  
**Litigation Code IDs:**  
**Litigation Codes:**  
**Litigation History:**  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Message ID:** 19eb60c3-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Office:** ACTION NEA  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 77 SANA 659  
**Retention:** 0  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 08-Feb-2005 12:00:00 am  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 3264305  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** RECENT BAB AL-MANDIB OVERFLIGHTS  
**TAGS:** PFOR, EAIR, YE, FR  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**vdkgvwkey:** odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS\_Docs/19eb60c3-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
22 May 2009  
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